

11 March 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Administration)  
FROM : Assistant Deputy Director (Administration)  
SUBJECT : Medical Communications

The attached papers can be summarized as follows:

1. Dr. Tietjen feels very strongly that he should be able to communicate with the doctors overseas concerning medical information requiring strict confidence in accordance with medical ethics and respect for privacy. This means that this particular type of information would not go through command channels.

2. Dr. Tietjen, therefore, submitted a proposal to establish an "M" (Medical) indicator in our basic cable procedure, which would accomplish his objective.

3. The Deputy Assistant Director for Communications indicated that the proposal was entirely feasible from a communications standpoint and could be arranged immediately upon approval.

4. I referred the matter to the Deputy Director (Plans) for comment and received a reply from Mr. Hulick disapproving this proposal.

5. I thereafter had a talk with Mr. Hulick and was unable to convince him of the necessity of this channel. I agreed, however, that I would ask Dr. Tietjen to talk to him and see if they could work out a satisfactory compromise.

6. Dr. Tietjen has talked to Mr. Hulick and has been unable to reach a satisfactory compromise.

7. Dr. Tietjen still feels it urgently necessary that he have a communications procedure which will permit him to communicate with his doctors in the field without the content of the message being brought to the attention of command channels.

8. I concur in Dr. Tietjen's feeling and recommend that you speak to Mr. Wisner about this plan.

/s/  
L. K. WHITE

LKW:ps

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